

SOUTHWESTER

ESTABLISHED 1964

A Monthly Non-Profit Publication of The Southwest Community Council, Inc.

SERVING THE ENTIRE SOUTHWEST/SOUTHEAST ANC 2D AREA

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JULY 1990



Crew aboard Finished Business prepare for blessing of the fleet.

BLESSING THE FLEET: A BLESSED EVENT

by Gilbert Leggett

Capitol Yacht Club recently hosted the sixteenth annual Blessing of the Fleet on the Potomac River. Sponsored by the Waterfront Associates and Gangplank Marina, this water spectacular brought together some 25 Yacht Clubs from all along the Potomac. Two months of preparation, along with the assistance of the Harbour Police, Fire Dept. and Coast Guard culminated this event.

Gordon Gould, fleet captain landside, commented "I'm really pleased. I think everyone did a wonderful job. Everybody had to know where to be and they all executed their assignments very well."

There were 160 registered boats with prizes given to winners in categories such as: Best Power Boat, Sail Boat, House Boat, Decorated Boat and Best Decorated Boat by Kids. Also, winners included Classic Power Boat and Classic Sail Boat for those boats 25 years or older. Prizes were donated by the Waterfront Associates and Boat U.S.

About 70 people from up and down the river were provided taxi service from their boats for a cookout, guest of the Capitol Yacht Club. Boats were staged at the Anacostia Bridge, Wilson Bridge, 14th Street Bridge and the Channel.

The blessing of the fleet was done by Rev. William Smith of Riverside Baptist Church. Captain Bob Pennington, who has done the blessing in the past, was on hand; also Father Way, Pastor Emeritus at St. Dominics and Jim Hampton retired Harbour Master.

Walt Gold presided as master of ceremonies Howard Gassaway, Vice Admiral of the Potomac River and his boat Seafarers lead the fleet. Judges for the competition were Dorothy Leonard, James Ward and Marty Klune. Mr. Klune who had been coordinator for the past five years said, "I think it is the nicest affair done on the river and channel. This year was one of the best with no apparent problems. I hope it will continue with many different boats and more competitors in the future."

cont. on page 2, see BOATS



Arnold Ford aboard The Eagle.

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Boats on stage in the Channel.

BOATS, cont. from page 1

Waterfront Assoc. President George Reisling summed up the water display. "The event was well attended, everyone enjoyed themselves and it was very organized. It's a terrific thing to look south down the river at that string of boats. I'd like to also thank Barbara Erlich for her role as secretary, Sandra Hense of the Capitol Yacht Club and Carol Olson of the Washington Marina who was in charge of the prizes. It was SPECTACULAR."

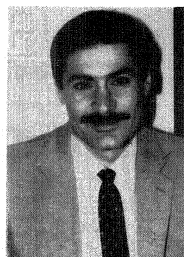
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The deadline for any community oriented news or information printed in the *SOUTHWESTER* is the 5th of each month. All items submitted must be in type. Please send articles to P.O. Box #70131 Wash., D.C. 20024 or deliver to the S.W. Library information desk.

Special appeals are being made to all churches, organizations or community groups to utilize our community paper.

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**ADVERTISE IN THE
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SWNA/ANC

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS CEREMONY AUGUST 5TH

The SWNA Scholarship Committee will sponsor its third annual awards ceremony on Sunday, **August 5, 1990**, from 3:00 pm until 4:00 pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church (400 Eye St., S.W.).

Community leaders, residents and friends are cordially invited to attend this program which will showcase scholarship recipients' artistic talents.

Please join us to give support, recognition and encouragement to our young people obtaining higher education. We look forward to seeing you.

1990 ARTISTS' AUCTION

Active planning is now underway for the 1990 Artists Auction, which will be held on **Monday, September 24**, at the Arena Stage, 6th & Maine Avenue, S.W. The theme of the auction will be "Arts, Politics and Law." Viewing of the art work will be from 1:00-8:00 p.m. in the Arena Lobby. The auction will be held from 8:00-10:30 p.m. in the Arena Theatre and will include both a live and silent auction. There will also be a cash bar, refreshments and music. Details on admission fee, patrons, sponsors and advertising in the Artists' Auction catalog will be included in a subsequent issue of **The Southwester**.

The auction will be a joint fundraiser of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly and A. Salon, Ltd., an artists' service organization in the District of Columbia. The SWNA and A. Salon teamed up in 1983 to hold a similar auction and raised over \$3,000.

Thelma Jones, Assistant Editor, **The Southwester** and former SWNA President, will co-chair the auction with George Koch, a painter and a founder of A. Salon, Ltd. Both Jones and Koch have extensive experience in fundraising for non-profit organizations and were actively involved in the 1983 Artists Auction held at the Waterside Mall. Other committee members representing the SWNA include Charlotte K. Brooks, Jann Buller, Barbara Ehrlich, Margaret Feldman, Viola Leak, Dale MacIver and Wesley Long. Additional volunteers are needed for committee assignments and may sign up by calling 488-3746.

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S.W. House Executive Director Rosa Bernard

JUNE 28TH NEXT ASSEMBLY MEETING

COMMUNITY APPRECIATION DAY is the theme for the June 28th meeting of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly. Southwest is a great place to live and there are many people, both children and adults, who contribute to making it great. At any one time we cannot mention all who contribute their time and talents, but at the end of the school year and the beginning of summer is a good time to look back and give recognition to some who have made us proud to live in Southwest.

Plans are not yet complete for the meeting, but Rosa Bernard, the new Director of Southwest Community House, will be introduced.

All residents of Southwest are invited. Refreshments will be served.

ST. MATTHEWS CHURCH, 222 M ST.
S.W. 7:30 P.M.

ANC NEWS

ANC members and concerned citizens met with Councilman John Wilson to discuss the crisis at 203 N St., S.W. Recommendations were made to request First District Police Dept. to patrol the complex during known hours of heavy drug trafficking and request the Housing Authority to require a permanent on-site resident manager. A followup meeting is scheduled soon to consider other priorities such as an improved security system, new lighting system under the Arch and actively involving community church leaders.

Primary concerns are that the building is drug infested and a center for homicide. Tenants live in fear, children are in danger and there are constant problems with elevators not operating.

ANC 2-D MEETING

The next meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2-D will be **Monday, July 16**. Please call 554-1795 for location. All are welcome.

LIVING STAGE OFFERS 25TH ANNUAL SUMMER WORKSHOP SESSIONS

The Living Stage Theatre Company will conduct its 25th Summer Workshops for adults from **June 18th to July 19th**. The five-week sessions will run two days per week, from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Participants will explore and discover their personal artistic potential through the improvisational process.

Also this summer, Living Stage will offer theater camps for children and teenagers. Dates for each two week session are as follows:

Children (ages 6-8): **June 25th to July 6th**, 9:00 a.m.-noon

Children (ages 9-12): **July 9th to July 20th**, 9:00 a.m.-noon

Youth (ages 13-15): **June 25th to July 6th**, 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Youth (ages 15-18): **July 9th to July 20th**, 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Living Stage company members will encourage participants to expand their imagination using theater, dance, music, storytelling, and visual art.

Registration is beginning now and will continue through June first. Early registration is recommended as space is limited. For further information and a registration form, please call Living Stage at (202) 554-9066, Monday through Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Living Stage, internationally renowned for its artistic excellence, is the social outreach theater company of Washington, D.C.'s acclaimed Arena Stage. The company has trained thousands of children, youth, and adults, nationwide, in its philosophies and techniques.



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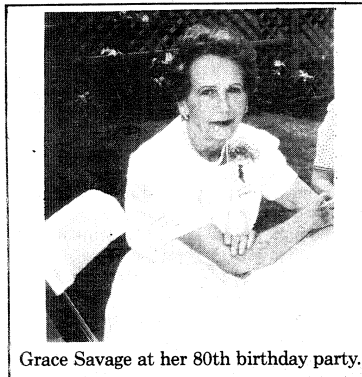
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PEOPLE IN SOUTHWEST

THROUGH THE EYES



Grace Savage at her 80th birthday party.

GRACE SAVAGE: DYNAMIC COMMUNITY ACTIVIST

A penthouse apartment in Harbour Square with a spectacular view of the Washington Monument and Southwest waterfront has been home for Grace Savage for 23 years now. For 17 of those years she has been retired from personnel work for the federal and D.C. governments and has been actively involved in community activities. Close to home she was chair of the Harbour Square Community Affairs Committee for several years.

THE SOUTHWESTER is especially grateful for her volunteer efforts as Distribution Manager for this newspaper for the past 12 years. She reflects fondly on this experience: "Working on the SOUTHWESTER involves considerable frustration. (I now have sympathy for the Postal Service.) It also has its delights, which include working with others involved in other phases of its production. I have explored our Southwest and near SE area from one end to another. I have become acquainted with residents of all economic levels and with others involved in schools, churches, merchants, marinas and government activities."

Citizen involvement and input for more efficient and responsive local government has been one of her aims, through her active membership in the non-partisan League of Women Voters, which follows what the District government is doing and helps keep it on its toes. Besides sharing leadership for the Southwest, D.C., unit of the League from time to time, Grace has made a mark on the D.C. League and the operation of the District Government, especially with a major study she headed on the operation of the 36 Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs) operating in the neighborhoods of all eight wards.

A persuasive case is made in her report for

the District to set up and finance a centralized support unit responsible to the ANCs while giving them advice, guidance and services.

Grace proved her interest in neighborhood-level government by winning election as a Commissioner of Southwest/Southeast's ANC 2D for the 1978-79 term. She says, "Our ANC area has been lucky in having THE SOUTHWESTER for communication and Gottlieb Simon, the capable executive director of the ANC for 14 years."

Miss Savage grew up in Colorado, where it was natural to get interested in hiking. Long after her retirement she was still an active member of a hiking club. "My hiking costume is similar to my SOUTHWESTER delivery costume—jeans and sometimes a hat," she says.

Her bridge game is gradually improving from lessons at the Woman's National Democratic Club. She is even making some improvement in ballet, which she first took up a few years ago.

Some parts of Southwest were grassy and not built on when she first moved to Southwest in 1967. Now the view from her apartment includes many more mature trees and completed construction. The shopping mall has improved considerably over the years, although it isn't as extensive as many expected it to be, she says.

Grace's employment with the Department of the Army for 23½ years took her to duty stations in Korea, Japan and Iran as well as California and the Pentagon. She prepared for her career by earning a Master of Arts in Personnel Administration from George Washington University and a BA in Economics from the University of Colorado in Boulder.

She likes living in Southwest because it is an integrated neighborhood with a variety of races and economic levels, she says. "I would rather live in Southwest than any other place in the world—and I have traveled a lot."



Grace Savage in hiking clothes with her three grandchildren.

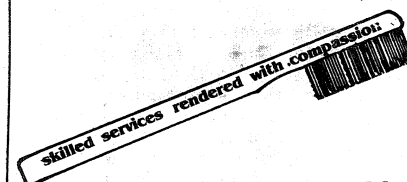


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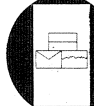


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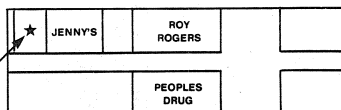
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Young Heroes L-R. Ivory Moore and LaShawn Williams.

YOUNG HEROES

LaShawn Williams and Ivory Moore of Van Ness E.S. became heroes recently when they helped a mother find her lost child at the National Zoo. While on a field trip to the Zoo the two kids were on their way to the bathroom when they noticed a lady crying. LaShawn explains, "The lady asked us if we had seen her little boy. We said yes, we had seen him in the small animal house." Ivory added, "She was yelling, 'David! David!' I asked her if he had on red shorts and was eating ice cream? The lady said 'Yes! Yes!' So we didn't go to the bathroom because we had to find the lady's son. We found the little boy and she thanked us, then gave us both \$5."



Syphax Queen Candice Winfield

SYPHAX CROWNS KING AND QUEEN

The faculty and students held a spectacular program commencing with a procession of the court and the crowning of the King and Queen by school principal Ms. Mary Williams.

The King, Dominique Manning, and Queen Candice Winfield, along with their court were treated to an auditorium program featuring singing, poems, tumbling and dancing performed by students grades Pre-K thru 6th. The stage was beautifully decorated by art teacher Mr. Kent Hart.

The afternoon program was held on the school playground beginning with a shuttle run, 50-yard dash, tennis relay and many more outdoor events coordinated by faculty member Mr. Mike Burley.

SCHOOL GARDENING PROGRAM

The Jon Ayres Outdoor Classroom is a school gardening and beautification program. Vann Ness E.S. and the USDA Extension Service made this program possible. Students worked with Mr. James Butler and Ms. Gracie Joy to landscape the school grounds. Students were taught about plants and the tools used in gardening.

The M St. side of the school was tilled and replanted with junipers, periwinkles and the money plant. A flower garden was prepared on the front side of the school. All classes had an opportunity to dig and plant in the garden.

The garden is edged with 19th-century bricks from the Old Van Ness School building which was recently demolished. The theme of Preserving the Past, Preparing for the Future is appropriate. Dedication will be held in the fall.

BE SMART STAY IN SCHOOL

NO BRAINS NO GAINS, STAY IN SCHOOL

OUR PARTNERSHIP CONTINUES

Last year our school, Anthony Bowen Elementary School, in southwest Washington, D.C., began a partnership with the Navy Military Sealift Command. Vice-Admiral Paul D. Butcher was the Commander in charge at that time. This school year, 1990, we welcomed Vice-Admiral Francis R. Donovan as the new Commander.

As a result of our partnership we have many tutors who come to our school each day to help us with reading, mathematics and other areas of study. Some tutors use games to help us. Other tutors work with one student, while others work with small groups. Some tutors have arranged trips for us to visit the Navy Yard. Several times classes have been invited to come to the Navy Yard to participate in official ceremonies. Our tutors come faithfully and are anxious to help us.

We are happy with and proud of our partnership with the Navy Military Sealift Command!

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EDITORIAL

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

How do you feel about Riverfest being cancelled?

ASK MARION

[This column is designed to improve family harmony: to help parents and children better understand and communicate with each other. The principles presented may also be applied to school behavior and the relationship between teacher and child. Address questions and comments to Dr. Marion Rosen, c/o The Southwester.]

Dear Dr. Rosen:

In a previous column you described a "family meeting." I suggested to my family that we try it to see if we could achieve a more peaceful atmosphere in our home. Surprisingly, they agreed and we have had three. However, we feel that we need more guidance as to how they should be run and what we can expect from having them.

Dear Reader:

First, a little bit on "why family meetings are considered so beneficial." In the system of Psychology which I practice, Adlerian Psychology, the human being is seen as an individual who, from the earliest moments of his life, strives to overcome weakness and to feel significant. Observe a new infant and see the characteristic ways in which he accomplishes this.

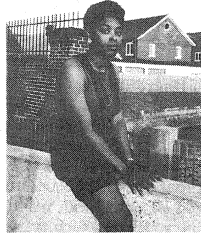
Each child in the family will find his own unique way to achieve and express his significance. If the child is helped along by encouragement from his parents he will grow up to be a cooperative and contributing member of his group, whether it be his family, his school group or his work community. If he is either over-indulged (spoiled) or neglected, his behavior will reflect that also. When we find a misbehaving child we know that he is a discouraged child.

Assuming that all of my readers wish to bring up healthy and cooperative children who will contribute to society by useful behavior, I advocate the Family Meeting as an excellent training ground for such behavior to develop.

What we are talking about is a democratic family system in which each member is given equal dignity and equal respect. The Family Meeting is an excellent place to teach the kind of equality of which we now speak, and parents have the opportunity to model the kind of behavior they wish to instill in their children.

Taking into consideration that all the family members' needs and time constraints, decide upon a mutually agreeable time for a meeting of about 45-60 minutes. Agree that all telephones, TVs and radios be turned off and everyone gather at the designated place, preferably around a large table which is clear of everything but a pad and pens or pencils for taking notes of decisions made at the meeting. In this instance the table is for working at, not for eating.

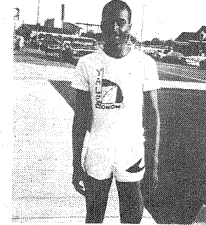
The roles of leader and secretary are to rotate around the group. Even the young child of 4-5 may surprise you by his ability to lead the discussion when his time comes. The secretaryship, of course, is limited to those who can write the language.



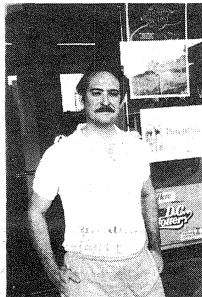
Beverly Nickens
It's bad it was cancelled. I could walk to it. There was good food and entertainment.



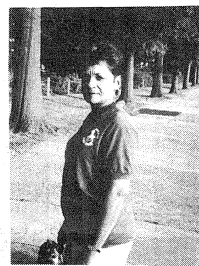
Pat Maillard
The fireworks were good. In the end it got too crowded.



Phillip Jefferson
I personally enjoyed it. It was a good opportunity for people to come together. There was good food, music and it was a big block party. Sad to hear it was cancelled.



Larry Wilderman
I used to go but it got too crowded, maybe too much of a good thing.



Janet Harris
When the city cancelled Riverfest, I was really shaken because I just moved to S.W. and I had such a good time.

**PATRONIZE
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The purpose of the family meeting is to smooth out the rough edges of family living. There are decisions to be made: What shall we do this week-end? How are the chores to be divided? What TV programs will we watch? For how long? Until what time? When is bedtime? For whom? These are only examples of the kinds of details which may be explored.

Most family problems benefit from being openly discussed in this manner. However, some are best left for private talks between parent and child, report cards being among these.

General rules for the meeting are that everyone gets a chance to talk and be listened to attentively and respectfully. Decisions must be arrived at by consensus, not by voting. Just think, four children can outvote two parents any time. If unanimous agreement cannot be reached on an important matter, put it aside for consideration at the next meeting one week hence.

Some families have kept their meetings going for ten years and more. Give yours a fair try and discover how valuable they can be.

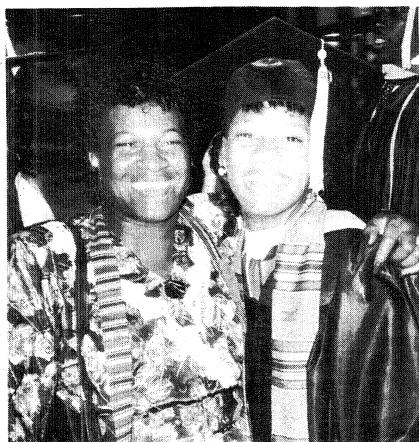
I'd be very happy to hear from any family who holds such meetings. If you need help, just ask Marion.

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SOUTHWESTER SALUTE TO EXCELLENCE



Jacquelyn Matthews, left, of K St. S.W., visited Raleigh, North Carolina, last month for the graduation of her daughter Lisa from St. Augustine's College.

CONGRATULATIONS

Local resident Paul Weiss has been selected as co-salutatorian of his class at Duke Ellington School of the Arts. His many honors include: four years perfect attendance, Presidential Academic Fitness Award, DESA excellence certificate for music theory, the Semper Fidelis Award and recognition for SAT high scores. The S.W. community is very proud of you.

LISA MATTHEWS EARNS BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

On May 13 Lisa Matthews, former Miss Southwest, graduated cum laude with a bachelor of science degree in computer science at St. Augustine's College, Raleigh, N.C.

During four years at St. Augustine's, her grades were almost all As and Bs. Her courses included such computer terms as COBOL, FORTRAN, PASCAL, and Assembly Language, Logic, and Calculus. St. Augustine's has recently spent over a million dollars to modernize its science facilities. JET magazine cites the college's goal of making students "highly competitive in science and mathematics." St. Augustine's student/faculty ratio is 18 to 1 with more than half of its faculty members holding PhDs.

At graduation ceremonies in the Raleigh Civic Auditorium Miss Matthews wore a yellow braid at her shoulder to identify her as an honor graduate. Her black cap and wide sleeved academic gown included a yellow tassel on the cap and a folded hood across the shoulders with yellow trimming to indicate the bachelor of science degree. To proudly emphasize her African heritage, Miss Matthews wore a brightly colored ornamental scarf or stole several inches wide hanging in front and woven from threads of African colors.

Lisa is also a S.W. scholarship award recipient proving once again that our community contributions really do make a difference.

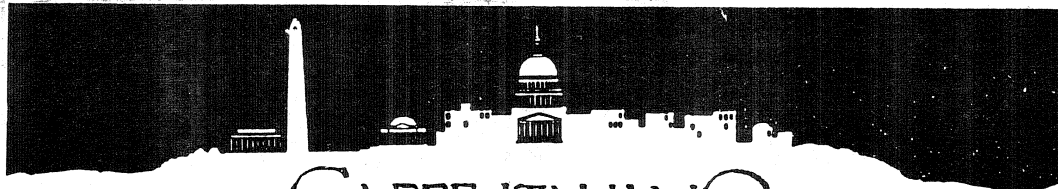
OUTSTANDING PARTNER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Van Ness E.S. and the USDA have been selected to receive an "Outstanding Partner of the Year Award." This is an annual award given by the Superintendent of the D.C. Public Schools and is aimed at recognizing those schools and their partners who have excelled in their partnership activities. The award was presented at the Thirteenth Annual Superintendent's volunteer Recognition Ceremony at Dunbar High School. This is truly an outstanding achievement.

GROCERY RECEIPTS CAMPAIGN

Van Ness has just completed tabulating its grocery receipts in its educational campaign with Giant and Safeway Stores. The school collected almost \$500,000 in total receipts, \$400,000 of which was donated by USDA employees.

With the receipts collected, the school will order two Apple computers, two image printers and several software packages from Giant Food; one IBM computer, one printer and several software packages from Safeway Stores.



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CONGRATULATIONS

Cathy Bethea is shown with three of her sons, Steve, left, David, and Michael Bethea at the Mother-Of-The-Year breakfast of the D.C. Federation of Civic Associations in the Capital Hilton Hotel. The Board of Directors of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly voted Mrs. Bethea as the Mother-Of-The-Year for Southwest, D.C., and entered her in the city-wide Mother-Of-The-Year contest of the federation.

WILSON SENIORS HONORED

Three Southwest residents received honors at Wilson High School's award assembly for graduating seniors.

Malonda Richard received a special award for her leadership activities. She has been accepted for admission to Highland College in New Mexico in the fall.

Anita Sands, a cadet in the Junior ROTC, received the D.A.R. Good Citizenship Medal and a music award. She is an accomplished cellist.

Andras Zalan was recognized for winning a \$2,000 scholarship to attend the Corcoran School of Art.

Richard, Sands and Zalan are all applicants for scholarship grants from the Southwest Scholarship program.

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ARTS

GREGORY BARGEMAN: ACTING TO EDUCATE

by Sonte B. DuCote

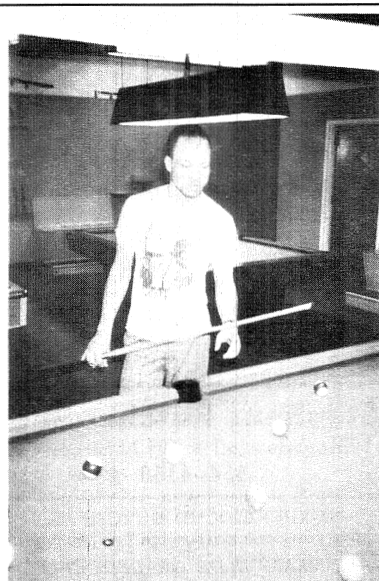
After earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Speech Communication from the University of North Carolina, Gregory Bargeman went back to his small, impoverished hometown of Beaufort, North Carolina, where he worked three jobs just to make ends meet.

We in Southwest know him as Greg, one of our friendly librarians at the Southwest branch. Two years ago Greg came to D.C. to seek a better life. Before landing his position as Branch Desk Supervisor, he taught job skills to troubled youth. He also tutored court-referred youth, where he as a recent arrival to the District had to go into some of our roughest neighborhoods, "I had to dress for the part," says Greg reflecting back on his earlier days here.

Dressing for the part comes easy for Greg. As a hobby Greg performs plays, poetry, and excerpts from Afro-American literature. "I don't need to become famous in acting... I just like pleasing my audience," expressed Greg. When Greg was in high school he was assigned to recite an excerpt from Shakespeare's *MacBeth*. He performed it so well that the teacher had him do it in front of his entire school.

In college he played Malcolm X in *It's Time For A Change*, which "gave me a hunger for acting," says Greg. Shortly thereafter Greg joined the Ebony Readers Onyx Theater, which focused on recognizing Afro-American literature through dramatic readings. Six months later he became president, and started a Junior Ebony Readers club. He also organized a corp of students that went into North Carolina high schools to teach Afro-American literature, "because it wasn't being taught."

In his two years in D.C. he has played in a one-man show, *Vive Noire* (Black Life), which reinforced his commitment to sharing Afro-American prose, poetry and sermons. "I try to put enough emotion into my acting so that the audience will feel the character... I always want to leave my audience with a message," states Greg emphatically. One of his messages, in his own words is:



Greg Bargeman performs in *The Past is the Past*.

STILL NOT FREE

Suffer through time
Take what is pushed your way
Ignore all morals
Live with hate and pain
Love all enemies

Neglected
Oppressed
Turmoil



Free in the minds of others
Revolt against oppression
Emancipated
Elite, yet still not free

Those sharp words characterize many of Greg's work. At the Encore Theatre Greg is presently performing Richard Wesley's *The Past Is The Past*. In this play, the main character, Eddie, finally meets his father in a pool hall. This is a hard role for Greg because the story parallels his own life. He also met his father after 18 years of separation.

In addition to his acting, Greg is a mentor for the Southwest Youth Activities Task Force, is actively involved in Black History programs, and was Master of Ceremonies for the Girls and Boys Talent Show. Greg has also just been accepted to Catholic University, where he will study Library Science.

Greg does not seek fame or fortune for his acting, "as long as I am recognized within my scope of life, I am happy," says Greg. When asked what is the most important message he'd like to convey, he firmly stated, "Black people need to know how their history relates to the world, and if you want to get hooked, get hooked on a good book!"

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Marvin Banks, DCPS Values Education Unit and SWNA Pres. Margaret Feldman.

YATF TRAINING ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Youth Activities Task Force (YATF) students recently enjoyed an inspiring Saturday morning training session on values education. Marvin A. Banks, an art instructor and veteran employee of the D.C. Public Schools who is assigned to the Values Education Unit enthusiastically discussed the six values perspectives (behavior, responsibility, self worth, socialization, communication and interdependence), a subject that is being widely taught in the D.C. Public Schools. During the presentation, Mr. Banks informed the YATF students that "our value system dictates whom we socialize with, what we think of ourselves, how responsible we are and the way we communicate to others." Giving several examples of how students and other people have become fatal victims of crime, many of which the students knew about from the local news, he urged to students "to stay in school, reach for excellence, and choose their friends wisely." A slide presentation was then shown on various types of art work which basically depicted the illustrated story that Mr. Banks was sharing with the students on the importance of having a good values system. YATF members and mentors praised Mr. Banks for his delivery and ability to fully capture and maintain the students' attention throughout the entire session. More satisfying to Mr. Banks was the students' reaction. One student expressed her appreciation for the way Mr. Banks defined and explained art, noting that in the past she found art and museum field trips so boring that she would fake illness just to avoid them.

Upcoming activities of the YATF include a presentation and field trip to the J. W. Marriott (14th & Penn.) and CNN America (Cable News). Also, the students will see "Fences" at the Arena Stage to help broaden their interests and understanding in the field of the arts and to show YATF support for the Southwest Scholarship Fund.

The training sessions will culminate with an award ceremony on Wednesday, August 22, at 6:30 p.m. at the Disabled American Veterans' Building, 807 Maine Avenue, S.W. Colbert I. King, Executive Vice President, Riggs Banks, will be the keynote speaker, and Ms. Gail Jessup, Morning Exchange Host and Membership Producer, WHMM-32, will be the Mistress of Ceremonies. Refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

STOP THE MADNESS

SAY YES TO SUMMER JOBS

YATF PROFILE



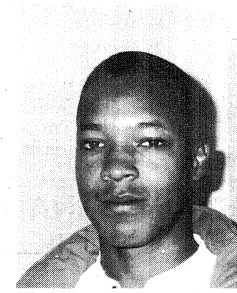
Marvin Austin



Clarice Young



Lakia Hayes



Damond Gordon

SMART START SURE FINISH

by Sonte B. DuCote

Secure in the basement of Westminster Church there resides a little school called The Learning Tree. But "little" by no means describes the academic achievements of its students. Its director, Maisha Lynn Washington, along with her staff, Norman Williams and Nancy Mathews, have drastically improved the academic skills of their elementary school children, and given their preschool children a great beginning.

"Our number one mission is to give high self-esteem through understanding of the world, and human history, as well as a strong hands-on science and technology experience, and lastly ground them firmly in math, reading and verbal skills so they can compete in any arena with confidence," says Ms. Washington. When the school year began last fall, The Learning Tree had 2 all-A students, now it has increased to 12, 4 honor roll students, increasing to 23 and 7 students holding unsatisfactory grades, now down to zero students with U's on their report cards.

How does The Learning Tree do it? To begin with, exciting and innovative programs like the Young Technocrats Program, which during the summer is an intense 10-week program which strongly focuses on math, science and communications technology through activities in rocketeering, living in space, and computers. Participants will earn their Novice FCC license which will enable them to communicate with other youth around the world. They will also explore space by building a model space city. During the school year the Young Technocrats meet every Saturday to continue their commitment towards being the scientists of the 21st century.

So that they will be better equipped to communicate with other people around the world a French teacher, Fatoumata Bah, and a Spanish teacher, Hugo Rodriguez, come in once a week to educate the students on the language and the culture of their respective countries. Melvin Deal, an African dance instructor and drummer, also visits the school once a week to enlighten the students on African culture through dance and music.

The Learning Tree believes in rewarding its students for their hard work. Once a month, parents come to The Learning Tree to see their child receive a certificate, pin or trophy to acknowledge their achievements. The students also put on a show to share what they have learned.

"Our slogan is 'Smart Start Sure Finish,'" exclaimed Ms. Washington, "we believe that all of our students will go on to be college graduates!"

The Learning Tree is located at 400 I Street, S.W. For more information call 479-4387.

NO TRADES

Taking a look at you and me
And all that we've been through
Makes me absolutely certain
That I'd rather be me than you

When I think of you, my friend,
And all the troubles you have had
I compare my life to yours
And know mine hasn't been so bad

I prefer my life as it was and is
I'll sleep in the bed I've made
I feel no envy for you
With you I would never trade.

Margaret H. Oliver
May 1990